## PART 2 COVERAGE AND ELIGIBILITY

## 2.1 Method of Processing Applications and Determining Eligibility

The Medicaid agency will process applications, make determinations and furnish Medicaid as follows:

- a) Each applicant will be required to submit an application for medical assistance and to submit required supporting documents.
- b) Eligibility determination must be made within 60-days from the date the application is submitted to the Medicaid Agency.
- c) Eligibility coverage may begin as much as three months prior to the submission date of application if the Medicaid Agency determines that the applicant was otherwise eligible during that period.
- d) Eligibility coverage will be for up to one year. Changes of circumstances must be reported and redeterminations made where necessary. Recipients are required to re-apply and be redetermined annually.
- e) As a condition of eligibility, each legally able applicant and recipient will be required to assign his rights for release of

information from agencies/organizations to the Medicaid Agency for purposes of making eligibility determination. Refusal to assign rights to the Medicaid Agency will result in the denial or termination of eligibility.

f) SSI recipients are considered eligible upon filing an application for Medicaid.

## 2.2 Coverage and Conditions of Eligibility

Medicaid is available to the following individuals:

- a) all SSI cash-assisted recipients;
- b) low-income individuals who meet the current SSI income and resource levels and any applicable disregards and exemptions for the determination of eligibility, who:
  - i) are U.S. citizens, lawfully admitted permanent residents of the U.S., or permanently residing in the U.S. under color of law, and;
  - ii) establish residency in CNMI.